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A Thankful Heart

*Joy is born of a thankful heart
Cherishing each moment of the day,
Grateful not for the breathless wonders,
But for simple things along the way.*

*For the laughter of happy children,
For the love of family and friends,
For a place in the world with work to do
And for beauty that never ends.*

*For the splendor of earth and the heavens,
And for every creation of His,
With gratitude for ability
To enjoy life as it is.*

—Emily May Young in Gospel Herald.

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EDITORIAL

We know that most children live in a world of make-believe much of the time. As you observe children at play, you will note how they seem completely lost to all that's physical around them and seem to be so engrossed in their make-believe that they are not aware of your presence.

How wonderful it is to live in a world of make-believe. Then you are able to go on wings anywhere you wish. There are no hardships and trials; only the best is there. Things which are almost beyond the possible to accomplish in this life are made easy in a world of make-believe. Also, in a make-believe world there is no dependence upon any one, because you are able to do all that your heart desires, so there is no need of assistance.

When startled, a make-believe world can vanish completely before your imagination, and you are quickly brought back to the realities of life.

How many people today live

in a world of make-believe? We find that there are persons who seem to be living completely on top of everything. They live only for the best they can get from life with no serious thought of when their make-believe world will suddenly collapse. It might be fairly good logic to say, Well, after all, why not enjoy what there is now and think about the collapse when it comes, for if we let the collapse enter into the picture now, we cannot fully appreciate the joys of today. This is true to a certain extent, yet we should be a little less frivolous and much more serious about life itself.

So many times people are suddenly startled from their make-believe world and are snapped back into the realities of life. When this happens, they act like a drowning man foundering in a raging stream, as they have nothing they can grasp onto to find security.


A make-believe world is nice, but we shall find more happiness in living the real thing. We find more security in life by living a life which is founded upon hopes which God has given us. These hopes are not just dreams, but are of real value since His promises are sure. We will not wake up some day and find our make-believe world suddenly bursted as a bubble if we are firmly established in our faith in God. The impossible is accomplished in a make-believe world, but we know that with God all things, real things, are possible, so why trust in the imaginary?

As we often hear a teacher say to a day dreamer in class, "Come down to earth," let us all take

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Divine Guidance

By Le Roy Dais

ILLIONS of people today are overtaken with weariness and sorrow, and in grief they are seeking a solution for a better and happier life. Why is it that people are brought into these conditions? Is it because God leads them that way, or is it because they fail to allow God to lead them in the way in which He wants to lead them? Most likely it is the latter.

How do we know that God will lead the people, or is there any proof that He ever has? The Old Testament records several instances in which God led a people either by some sign or through the direction of some righteous man. The exodus of the Children of Israel from Egypt provides a very fine example of the Almighty's guidance.

"And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt: but God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red sea . . ." (Ex. 13: 17, 18). In this occasion God would have chosen the shortest route, but that route would have crossed the country of the Philistines, who were a wicked and warlike nation at that time. God thus considered that the Children of Israel would become afraid and feel sorry for ever having left Egypt, and would probably re-

turn to that country again. Therefore, God led His people by way of the wilderness.

By day the Lord went before the Israelites in a pillar of a cloud and at night in a pillar of fire, so that the people were able to go both by day and by night. Even though God led the people by a pillar of cloud or fire. He still had someone to act as mediator between Himself and the people, and that office was occupied by Moses. It was through Moses that God unified the Israelites in Egypt and brought about the plagues in order that Pharaoh would let them go.

Realizing the great loss at the absence of the Israelites, Pharaoh and his army pursued them and almost caught up with them as the Israelites approached the Red Sea. The angel of the Lord and the cloud were then removed from before the Israelites to go behind them, and thus separate the Egyptians from them. The Lord also commanded Moses to stretch out his hand over the sea, and in doing so the waters separated, providing dry land for the children of Israel to cross the sea. Pharaoh and his army were all drowned while making a similar attempt.

After Moses, and the people he was leading, had crossed the sea; and the sea had returned to its natural position, the children of Israel wrote the song of deliverance and in it were included the following words: "Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people

which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation" (Ex. 15:13). Certainly, it was through a mighty power that the Israelites were delivered from the hand of Pharaoh and were provided with a highway on which they could pass through the Red Sea.

Soon afterward, the people found themselves out in the wilderness without any food, but God heard their cry of hunger and supplied them with nourishment in the form of manna. Six mornings in the week this manna was found on the ground in a form similar to that of hoar frost. The first five mornings every person was to gather a sufficient supply for that day, but on the sixth morning of every week they had to gather twice that amount so that it would last for the Sabbath also.

On previous occasions the thirsty Israelites cried for water, and in His great mercy, God quenched their temporal thirst when by His miraculous power He caused water to flow from a rock, or by some other means.

While the camp of Israel abode at Mt. Sinai, God gave Moses the commandments and laws by which the Israelites were to abide. These commandments concerned the ways in which the people were to sacrifice before God, how they were to live in their daily lives in order to remain obedient to God and to do that which was pleasing in His sight.

Even though God was leading the people, He did not exercise complete control over them. At various times the people started to murmur and were ready to

rebel against Moses, thus causing God to kindle His anger against them, but Moses always intervened for them. In the wilderness of Paran, twelve spies were sent out to inspect the conditions of the Promised Land. Ten of the twelve brought back an evil report, and the people listened to these ten rather than to the two righteous spies — Caleb and Joshua. So they rebelled against Moses again and were getting ready to return to Egypt.

God then told Moses that none of the people who rebelled (all rebelled except Joshua and Caleb), who were older than twenty at the time of the exodus, would be allowed to enter into the Promised Land. As an additional punishment, the people also had to wander in the wilderness for forty years before entering Canaan. During those forty years all the people who were forbidden to enter the land were destroyed in numerous ways.

In the latter part of their journey toward Canaan, God helped the Children of Israel defeat several wicked nations that rose up against them. Finally, as they were about to cross the Jordan River, the Lord required the life of Moses and gave Joshua his place. Here again, God separated the water to provide a highway on which His people could cross safely. God still remained to be their helper in taking possession of the land, but at times when they became wicked He did not hesitate to punish them.

God is still the same today as He was in the time of Moses; and, certainly, He is still willing

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The Conquest of Temptation

By Mary Holbert

WHILE in the flesh, man is never exempt from temptation. No matter how spiritual man becomes, temptation is inevitable because of his human nature. Even when one has been born again and has a close walk with God, his susceptibility to temptation remains. The devil enjoys tempting God's children. The closer man's spiritual experience is with God, the greater Satan's delight if he can get such a one to fall in his trap of temptation.

We should understand the nature of temptation in order to resist it. Temptation might be defined as the incitement of desire beyond the limits set by God for man. First John 2:16 says, "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

Every Christian has basic human desires; he desires to enjoy things, to get things, and to do things. When these desires grow out of proportion, then the desire to enjoy things could become the "lust of the flesh," the desire to get things, "the lust of the eyes," and the desire to do things, "the pride of life." The child of God who knows this, will be alert to temptation, and will examine his desires in the light of whether it will glorify God and will be for His sake and not for self. Sin is found in the misuse of basic desires, not in the possession of them.

The source of temptation is not secret. It comes from the devil. It does not come from God. "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: but every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed" (James 1:13, 14). The evidence that temptation is of the devil is overwhelming. "Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil" (Matt. 4:1). "And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him" (John 13:2). "For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain" (1 Thess. 3:5).

God does not always keep temptations away from us. He allows His children to be tempted as a trial of their faith. "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:6, 7). "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience"

One thing is sure—God will not allow His children to be tempted beyond what they are able to bear, and will make a way of escape. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Cor. 10:13). "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished" (2 Peter 2:9).

The believer has a friend in the hour of temptation. Our Lord Jesus understands and sympathizes with us in times of temptation. "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:15, 16).

The devil is stronger than we, unless we have Christ's help. Jesus has the power to help us and the willingness to aid us. "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted" (Heb. 2:18). This willingness to aid us is evidenced in our Lord's prayer. "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil" (John 17:15). "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou

art converted, strength thy brethren" (Luke 22:31, 32).

The Bible does not leave the Christian in doubt on how to meet and conquer temptation. We are to resist temptation. If we yield, it is our own fault, not God's. God commands us thus: "Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked" (Eph. 6:16). "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

Not only are we to be vigilant and have the shield of faith, but we are to stay awake, and pray. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt. 26:41). Prayer can change things. We should beseech the Lord to keep us from temptation and to give us strength to meet life's counters. "Lead us not into temptation" (Matt. 6:13) should be our earnest prayer.

If one does yield to temptation, he can be restored, if he repents and changes his ways. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

God will give to us all the knowledge, strength, and power we need in the conquest of temptation. It is up to us to make use of God's help. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

Where there is room in the heart there is always room in the house.—Moore.

Man of GOLD



By Haskell Hawkins

(Continued from last week)

All this was too much for Tom at such a moment, so he hastily replied, "I just feel sick. I think I'll go to bed."

Tom's mother watched her son rise slowly to his feet and mope across the room. She was wondering what was wrong with him but she thought it wise to let him go to bed. "Goodnight, Tom," she called as he left the room. "Goodnight, Mother," was the feeble reply. Then all was quiet.

The next morning at school Don was standing in the hallway waiting for Tom. Don saw the school bus pull up and stop. The kids were pouring out. Soon Tom stepped out. Don saw that Tom had seen him and was walking hastily to him. He noticed Tom's placid face and thought that Tom was still grieving over the game.

Tom took hold of Don's arm, nodded his head toward a classroom, and spoke in a monotone, "Let's go in here."

They hastily stepped inside the door where all was peace and quiet. Don sat down on a desk top and peered up wonderingly into the pale face of his friend, who began to speak, "Don, we've

done Fred a grave injustice. Yesterday Fred didn't want to fight me. He grabbed me to protect himself. Fred could have cleaned the ground with me if he had tried; but, all the time he was holding me, he was repeating, 'I'm your friend, Tom,' Then you lied to Mr. Strunk and caused him to be barred from the game. Do you remember a few days ago when Mr. Strunk told you that you had to retype your theme before the ballgame or else you wouldn't be eligible to play?" Don nodded his head. Tom continued, "Well, did you retype it?"

"No, I forgot it."

"Then, how do you suppose you were eligible to play last night?"

"I don't know. I guess maybe Mr. Strunk forgot about it."

"No, that's not it," snapped Tom, who was aggravated at his friend's coldness about the whole matter. "Night before last, Fred left the party early and came to Mr. Strunk's, got your paper and retyped it so you would be eligible to play in last night's game."

With this revelation Don simply slipped from his perch and

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TEEN



Letter From Grandmother Lois

My dear Boy,

I wrote to your sister somewhat briefly mentioning the message the prophet Malachi has for teen-age young people today. Just the words "godly seed" in the middle of the fifteenth verse of the second chapter gave her inspiration toward feminine influence in keeping faithful living in the home.

Your inspiration will find encouragement of lifetime value in the whole second chapter of Malachi, which is a message especially masculine, whether a man is priest in command of public affairs or only in his own home.

Just at this present seedtime-toward-harvest time of the year, when farmers are planting and cultivating seedlings for future nutrition, there come to us encouraging object lessons, very full of value for young people to consider.

We do not always notice how much time and arduous labor is spent before we get a good meal at a bountiful table. Tiny—often microscopic—seeds are carefully bred, gathered, dried, saved and guarded over winter; weeds and destructive insects are killed, thirsty plants are watered and

guarded from thieves as they mature toward harvest. And as harvest time approaches again, seeds are again planted for the future.

Malachi's words show us God is seeking "godly seed," which means "seed of God," we read in the Bible margin notes.

God is a heavenly husbandman, or farmer, or agriculturist. We see this if we observe what is going on around us. We can see His methods of saving the seed of Abraham, of Israel, and of Judah, from among whom He selected an incorruptible seed, to live on from generation to generation guided by His Word which lives on year after year,—a wonderful process.

I hope you are getting visions of God's way of leading young men to faithful, honest and true lives that will be valuable in God's Kingdom. The world is a field in God's sight with both wheat and tares in it.

There are many delicious and nourishing vegetables and fruits to be guarded against spoiling and degeneration from evil seeds of all kinds of corruption, call them tares or weeds or bad seeds or that treachery Malachi the prophet warned man against.

When you see a beautiful harvest of good fruits, know how men have worked with their Crea-



TALK

tor to raise the bounty you view, and aim your life's work toward that goal. Your sister, and later your wife, if you get a virtuous one, will be happy helpers in your high ideals.

Best wishes from—
Grandmother Lois.

TRY THIS GROUP GAME

(Heres' an interesting and profitable Bible game to play at most any gathering of young people.)

First choose up sides. Every one should have a Bible, but one Bible on each side will do.

One person on the side that begins the game selects any chapter from the Bible (it is to be a secret even to those of his own team.) Several verses are read aloud. The other side has two guesses as to what book of the Bible is being read. The first guess is a free guess. If the second guess is a miss, that is one point against them. If the correct book is guessed, then two guesses are given as to the chapter being read. One is a free guess, the other counts as a score for or against, depending on the guess. If they decide to forfeit the second guess as to the chapter, it is counted as one-half a point against them.

When the opposite team does not guess the chapter, then the reader's side must guess. One is

a free guess, but if the second guess is missed, it counts as two point against that side. The same goes for chapter guessing as before stated. If the book or chapter are guessed upon the first guess or free guess, that counts two points for the side guessing.

While trying to stump the other side, be careful or you may catch your own team and have two counts against you.

STEWARD OF GOD

Help me to spend
Carefully,
Prayerfully,
Substance Thou lendest me.

Help me to tend
Prayerfully,
Carefully,
Tasks which Thou sendest me.

Help me to use
Carefully,
Prayerfully,
Talents Thou gavest me.

Help me to choose
Prayerfully,
Carefully,
O Christ Thou savest me!
—Martha Nicholson in Gospel Herald.

Our prayer and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well; while the one ascends, the other descends.—*Hoskins.*

A MAN OF GOLD

(Continued from page 7)

stood for a moment with his mouth open and gazing into the eyes of his friend. "Do you really mean that?" whispered Don's quivering lips.

There was silence for a moment. Don leaned back against the back of a chair and dropped his gaze to the floor. "I'm a heel, Tom," he began feebly. "I'm the one who has caused all the trouble. Fred has always outdone me in everything and I was jealous of him. I wanted to make trouble for him so I turned your horse out, knowing that you would blame him for it."

Silence prevailed again. After a while, Don shook his head and looked up, "Will you forgive me, Tom?"

"Surely," Tom replied, "but, we must both go and find Fred and make things right."

The two boys left the room in search of Fred. Before long they learned that Fred was **not** at school, so they made plans to go and see him that night.

* * *

In the evening twilight Tom and Don stepped upon the front porch of Fred Mann's home. Fred's mother answered the door. "Good evening Mrs. Mann," the boys greeted in unison.

"Hello, Tom, and Don," she replied softly.

Tom could tell she was happy to see them, but something was wrong. What's wrong, he wondered as he asked, "Where is Fred?"

"He's very sick," came the low reply, and as Fred's mother turned, she added, "Follow me. I'm sure he will be happy to see you. You may say only a few

words because he's very ill. The doctor advised us to keep him quiet." As they marched across the room, Tom noticed a picture of Fred on the piano and wondered how any girl could keep from falling in love with such a lad.

As they entered the room, Tom saw Fred laying on the bed looking at them. Tom was horrified by the pale drawn face of Fred. Yesterday the sick man was pale, but now he looked like a ghost. As the two visitors dropped down on their knees at the side of the bed, Don spoke out, "We're sorry for mistreating you, Fred. Will you please forgive us?" Tom saw Fred's palid lips quiver and felt his cold hand on his as Fred gave his weak but earnest reply, "I've never had any hard feelings toward you."

Tom and Don answered, "Thanks a lot, Fred," as a load lifted from their hearts. Tom continued, "And we want you to hurry and get well. Next time we will show that Springfield bunch how the cow ate the cabbage."

They all grinned at that statement. The two boys then rose to their feet, bid Fred goodnight, and walked out into the living room where Mrs. Mann sat reading the evening paper. When she noticed them, she laid her paper aside and said, "Take a chair, boys, and visit with me a while."

They sat down.

"Tell us about Fred," said Tom. "What's wrong with him?"

Mrs. Mann cleared her throat and slowly began. "When he came home last night from the ballgame, he was a very sick boy. I was awakened about two o'clock in the morning by some-

one talking. I walked into Fred's room and sat down by his bed. He was saying, 'What a nightmare. What a nightmare.' I woke him, and asked what was wrong. He told me the whole story. He said he had been sick for several days, but was afraid to tell me because he knew I wouldn't let him play ball last night. He told me that he left the party Wednesday night because he felt so bad, and on the way home he happened to think about Don's theme, so he stayed up until nearly two o'clock working on it. He told me about the trouble he had had with you boys and the highlights of the day. This morning I called the doctor. He has been out here three times since. The doctor says he has strep throat, plus double pneumonia."

Tom's eyes were filled with tears. He held one hand up over his face so Don and Mrs. Mann wouldn't see him crying. He heard Don speak falteringly, "Tell us, what makes Fred such a perfect boy?"

Mrs. Mann answered in a lower tone than before, but her words were firm. "Fred was converted a couple of years ago. He was never a bad boy, but from that day until now, he has lived for his Master and friends. Very often he has wished that you two would come to church and get acquainted with his very faithful Friend, the One who sticks with him through thick and thin—the Lord Jesus Christ."

An hour later Tom and Don said goodnight to Mrs. Mann, and, as they mounted their horses and rode away, Mrs. Mann's soft, sweet voice was still ringing in Tom's ears. For three miles they rode with only the squeaking of

the saddles and the thot-thot of the horses' hoofs breaking the silence of the crisp moonlight night. As they approached the forks of the road, Tom looked down at Don and said, "I'll see you at church tomorrow."

"Okay, Tom," came the reply as Tom reined his horse to the right and headed down the moonlit road alone.

At ten o'clock the next morning, Tom, Betty, and Don were at Sabbath School. Tom was amazed as he sat there observing the crowd. Although so varied in stature and appearance, they all had one thing in common. They were in love with Fred's Friend.

After Sabbath School, church services began. Elder Morse read the 53rd chapter of Isaiah for his Scripture reading, then began his sermon. Tom was stirred to the depths of his soul as he sat there listening to the message about Jesus Christ.

When the altar call was given, Tom marched down the aisle and fell on his knees before the altar. Tom didn't know what was going on around him. He was completely lost in meditation of the words he had heard. Jesus Christ died for His enemies. No wonder that Fred is so wonderful. Anyone will be when they let Jesus be their friend. Yes, even me, Tom thought as he knelt there weeping bitter tears. Finally Tom rose to his feet and noticed that Don and Betty were beside him. Tom realized before the day ended that that Sabbath marked a new era in their lives.

Monday morning when Tom walked down the hall at school, Don wasn't waiting for him. Tom marched into the classroom hop-

ing to see either Don or Betty, but found neither.

I wonder why they aren't here, he thought as he sat down at his desk. The bell rang for the class to start, but Tom noticed that Mr. Strunk wasn't present. Five minutes later Mr. Strunk walked into the room. What's wrong with him? wondered Tom. He must be sick, too. Tom viewed him with searching eyes. Mr. Strunk began to speak, "There will be no school until Wednesday." There was a stir of joys among the students. Tom thought, too, that a two day vacation was a good idea, but he noticed the distressed look on Mr. Strunk's face as he stood there waiting for total silence. The rest of the class noticed it too, and quickly quieted down. Mr. Strunk continued, "The two days dismissal is in honor of your most beloved classmate, Fred Mann, who died last night.

Tom dropped his head into his hands and wailed, "Fred, dead? No! No! No!" The tears flowed from his eyes. Those few words that Mr. Strunk spoke had knocked the sun out of the sky of Tom's life.

* * *

Three years later the mailman delivered two letters addressed to Mrs. Mann. When she opened the first one, she took out a little card which was sent to notify her that Tom and Betty were proud parents of a baby boy. She noticed a dark line was marked beneath the baby's first name — Fred. Mrs. Mann was smiling as she opened the second letter. She noticed it was from Don, who had been going to college winter and summer for the last three years. The letter informed her that Don had finished

school and was sailing that day for South Africa to fill his calling as a missionary.

Mrs. Mann placed the letters under Fred's picture, where one lonely card had lain for three years. The card was a sympathy card given to the mother when Fred died. Beneath the touching poem, these words were penned: "In memory of 'A Man of Gold' —and signed by Betty, Tom, and Don.

BEING GENUINE

There is a good deal of sham, hypocrisy and deceit in this world, but we do not have to be a party to practicing any of it. Genuineness is far more attractive than pretense and deceit and all those things which everyone understands are wrong. Genuineness is always attractive, like some quiet lake in which there is mirrored the foliage of the trees and the beauty of the flowers and the grasses that grow along its banks.

Since those things that appear so beautiful in nature appear just as they are, we too should be clean, genuine and honest. It is simply great to "ring true" at all times. Why put on, anyway? Why seek for praise that does not belong to us? Why appear to be what we are not? Some one says, "It is far better to have one sweet morsel of well-earned appreciation than a whole meal of undeserved praise."

It is worthwhile to cultivate the art of being genuine. There are those who have done it. And they are the most appreciated and loved of us all. Let us imitate them, and in that way win for ourselves the esteem and love of others.—*Unknown*.

Watch Your Speech

A visiting minister was asked to lead in prayer in Sunday School, and when he had finished, a teacher heard one of the girls whisper, "G - - h, what a prayer!" Such an exclamation seems incongruous in expressing one's appreciation of a prayer, but a little thought will lead anyone to the conclusion that "gosh" is not an appropriate word for a Christian to use on *any* occasion whatsoever. When we look into the original meaning of such interjections, we may be surprised that even some Christian people are habitual users of expressions which the dictionary terms "minced oaths."

A very commonly used interjection is "Gee." It is capitalized in Webster's New International Dictionary and given this definition: "A form of *Jesus* used in minced oaths." This derivation is even more apparent when the form "Geez," now frequently heard, is used.

Two other common words and their definitions are these: "Golly—a euphemism for *God*, used in minced oaths; Gosh, a substitute for *God*, used in minced oaths." "Darn, darned, darnation," are said to be "colloquial euphemisms for damn, damned, damnation." Persons who allow their lips to utter "Gosh-darned" quite freely, would be shocked if they realized the real meaning of the word.

A certain minister, professor in a sound seminary, when he was a child, was not allowed to use "goodness," "mercy," or "gra-

acious" as exclamations. He was inclined to think the restriction a family peculiarity, merely a parental overcarefulness. Now he can see that it had a sound Bible basis. Jesus said: "Swear not at all . . . but let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil" (Matt. 5: 34, 37).

James repeats almost exactly the words of Jesus quoted above; "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by the Heaven, nor by the earth, nor by any other oath: but let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay; that ye fall not under judgment" (James 5:12, A.S.V.).

That last word recalls our Lord's declaration: "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment" (Matt. 12:36). The result of this judgment is given in the following verse: "For by thy words thou shalt be . . . condemned."

If we try to excuse ourselves by saying that these exclamations slip through our lips unawares, we need to heed the Holy Spirit's warnings: "If any man thinketh himself to be religious, while he bridleth, [or curbeth] not his tongue but deceiveth his heart, this man's religion is vain" (James 1:26, A.S.V.). Even though we do not intend these minced oaths to bear the meaning the words originally had, we certainly cannot truth-

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Poetic Gems

IF ALL WERE JUST LIKE YOU

Are you a member of a church?
And are its members few?
And would its membership be more,
If all were just like you?

'Mid cold and heat, and rain and
shine,
Are you found in your pew?
How large would the attendance be
If all were just like you?

Do you a testimony give,
That rings both good and true?
And when they need a fervent prayer
Can the preacher count on you?
Are you a booster for your church?
Trying to boost it through?
How much real boosting would there
be,
If all worked just like you?

Are you a sponger in your church,
Paying of dimes a few?
How much would your poor preacher
get,

If all paid just like you?
And would you have a better church,
More faithful, loving, true,
If every member, young and old,
Were always just like you?

Are you concerned about the young,
The "lambs," that should be fed?
Do you attend the Bible School,
Or do you lie in bed?
If all the members of your church
Acted the same as you,
Would many 'tend your Bible School,
Or would there just be few?

God help us to awake and see
That we have work to do;
Both in the church and Bible School,
If to our Lord we're true.

Unfaithful sluggards we will be,
Unless we do our part;
And at the judgment we will hear
That faithful word, "Depart."

—Rev. Alfred J. Hill in The Free
Methodist (adapted).



A LEAF

A leaf starts from a tiny bud,
From its universe, the tree,
And thro' spring becomes grown up;
Views the world and is conscience
free.

Some leaves are ugly, some are sweet,
Some untidy, some are neat,
Some show forth a glorious light,
While others die and fall from
sight.

In the summer a shade they are
To a passer-by;
Helping in every way they can,
Their Creator on high.

We are so much like the leaves,
Life for us will sometime end;
Let us kneel in prayer upon our
knees,

Our wrong deeds to amend.

Some can go with peace of mind,
Others hesitate;
For they know of things undone,
But then it is too late.

Be not like the dry, dead leaves,
Be a soul that's known by God,
To have found the righteous path,
On which thro' life thy feet have
trod. —Mrs. Billy Grabeel in
The Church Herald and Holiness
Banner.

WATCH YOUR SPEECH

(Continued from page 13)

fully say that the use of them accords with Christ's command, "Let your speech be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay" (Matt. 5:37, A.S.V.).

James seemed puzzled by the same thing that puzzles us; namely the presence of minced oaths on the lips of Christians. Writing of the tongue as 'a restless evil . . . full of deadly poison,' he said, "Therewith bless we the Lord and Father; and therewith curse we men, who are made after the likeness of God: out of the same mouth cometh forth blessing and cursing. My brethren these things ought not so to be" (James 3:8-10, A.S.V.).

While no attempt has been made to give a complete list of all the words in the vocabulary of near-profanity, enough has been said to indicate that present day speech has fallen below that standard which Christ Jesus set for His disciples.

The tendency in the use of such words is to find the milder one becoming less expressive of our feelings, to discard them, and use stronger ones in their stead. A careless following of others in the use of these common minced oaths will dull our own spiritual sensitiveness and will weaken our Christian testimony.

To gain the victory in this matter of full obedience to our Lord Jesus, we need to make the prayer of David our daily petition: "Let the *words* of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer" (Ps. 19:14).

—*Sunday School Times.*

Hand this paper to a friend.

Oregon Youth Rally

This month's youth rally was held at Harrisburg, Oregon, July 10. The theme was "Take Jesus with you."

The program began with prelude music by Dorothy Haffner. The song leader, Robert Nicholas, then led the congregation in the singing of several songs. The program leader, Ilene Sherman, opened the service with silent prayer, with Brother Strunk following in prayer. Opening songs were, "We Have An Anchor" and "Beautiful Days."

The first number was a reading by Sue Brehm. Then we had a song by the Johnson girls. Alma Strunk gave a wonderful missionary message.

While the congregation sang "What a Friend We Have In Jesus," Jim Larson and Don Sherman took up the offering for Brother Weekes, as this youth rally is supporting him.

Louise Long had a story for us. Followed, was a song by Merle and Opal Jenness.

The scripture reading, John 15: 1-9, was read by Robert Haffner. The song leader then led the congregation in a few choruses. We then had a sermonette by Lawrence Meier on "Taking Jesus With You." Closing song was "Anywhere With Jesus." We were then dismissed by Victor Haffner.

—Mildred Larson, Sec'y.

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths; in feelings, not in figures on the dial; we should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.—*Bailey.*

DIVINE GUIDANCE

(Continued from page 4)

to lead us the same as He led the Israelites at that time. If we are willing to let the hand of God lead us, His goodness will lead us to repentance (Rom. 2:4). After hearing the Word of God, repentance is obviously the first step by which we give ourselves into the care of God and put our trust in His guidance.

It is only after we have completely yielded ourselves to God that we are able to repeat the words of David: "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake" (Ps. 23:2, 3).

If we have a doubt in our mind concerning some portion of God's Word we should not depend upon the understanding of another who may not see the true meaning any more than we see it, for "if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch" (Matt. 15:14, last part), but rather we should ask God to guide and direct our thoughts. David has recorded a model prayer which would be very suitable for us to concentrate upon: "Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day" (Ps. 25:5).

It is essential for us to be under the guidance of God's spirit in order to become a child of His, and thus gain eternal salvation: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Rom. 8:14). Thus, it is only if we become completely subjected to God that we shall be able to be among the number mentioned in Revelation 7:17:

"For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them into living fountains of water: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 2)

that good admonition to heart ourselves and "live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world" (Titus 2:12).

NOTICE

Our postal permit allows us only fifty issues of the Christian Youth Herald and Gospel Call per year. In keeping with this, we are omitting the August 23 issue. Your next paper will be dated August 30, 1954. Thank you.

John Bunyan had a great dread of spiritual pride; and once, after he had preached a very fine sermon, and his friends crowded round to shake him by the hand, while they expressed the utmost admiration of his eloquence, he interrupted them, saying: Ay! you need not remind me of that, for the devil told me of it before I was out of the pulpit.

—Southey.

"The substitute speaker said that when he had to take the place of another speaker he felt like a bunch of rags stuffed in a window, not glass, not the real thing. When he had finished, the chairman rose and seriously assured him that he was *not* a bunch of rags—he was a real pane!"—Sel.